

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: MEIER

In re Application of:)
PETER MEIER & JÜRGEN OETJEN	
Cont. of Int. Appl. No.:	PCT/EP02/01202
Int. Filing Date:	February 6, 2002
For:	AXIAL THRUST BEARING

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail mailing label number: <u>EL 989473865 US</u>
Date of Deposit: <u>September 8, 2003</u>
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450".
<u>ANTONELLA FUSILLO</u> [Name of person mailing paper or fee]
 [Signature]

SIR:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the references listed on enclosed form PTO-1449 which were cited in the International Search Report issued by the European Patent Office with regard to the corresponding International patent application No. PCT/EP02/01202 and in the German Search Report issued by the German Patent Office with regard to the corresponding German patent application No. 101 11 514.8, respectively.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.

The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

- That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;
- That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In order to satisfy the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance of each item of information, applicant herewith submits a copy of the International and German Search Report together with a translation of the relevant pages thereof.

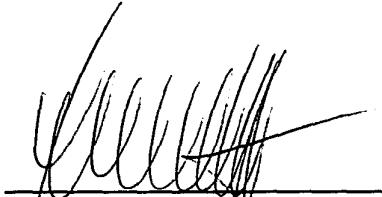
The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application
is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which
may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Respectfully submitted

By:


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Attorney's Docket No. MEIER	Applicant PETER MEIER et al.	Cont. of Int. Appl. No. PCT/EP02/01202
Int. Filing Date February 6, 2002	Group	Examiner

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date, if appropriate
	3,830,553	08-20-1974	Schürger et al.			
	4,269,460	05-26-1981	Orain			
	3,650,583	03-21-1972	Itin et al.			
	3,144,278	08-11-1964	H. Pöhler et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
	DE 384 819 C	12-03-1923	Germany			no
	BE 374 162 A	11-29-1930	Belgium			no
	FR 1 339 266 A	10-04-1963	France			no
	DE 11 95 558 B	06-24-1965	Germany			no
	DE 20 44 074 A	03-23-1972	Germany			no
	DE 92 14 796 U1	02-04-1993	Germany			no
	IT 5 92 639	05-06-1959	Italy			no
	DE 44 09 734 C2	01-12-1995	Germany			no
	DE 38 08 556 A1	09-28-1989	Germany			no
	DE 196 46 351 A1	05-14-1998	Germany			no

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner: _____ Date considered: _____

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.